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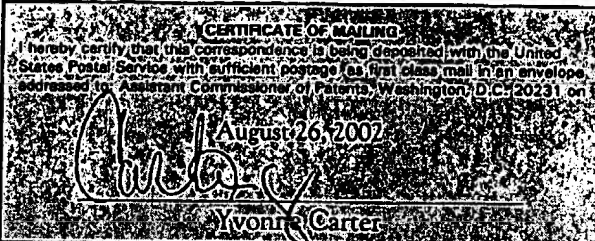
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TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Patent Docket P2548P1C15

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7-27-02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| In re Application of: Kevin P. Baker et al. Serial No.: 09/944884 Filed: 8/31/2001 | Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned Examiner: Not yet assigned  |
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to substantive examination of the above captioned patent application, Applicants respectfully request that the following amendments be entered.

In the specification:

Please insert the following new paragraph at page 1, line 2:

--RELATED APPLICATIONS

C1
This application is a continuation of, and claims priority under 35 USC §120 to, US Application 09/866028 filed 5/25/2001, which is a continuation of, and claims priority under 35 USC §120 to, PCT Application PCT/US99/28301 filed 12/1/1999, which is a continuation-in-part of, and claims priority under 35 USC §120 to, US Application 09/254311 filed 3/3/1999, now abandoned, which is the National Stage filed under 35 USC §371 of PCT Application PCT/US98/25108 filed 12/1/1998, which claims priority under 35 USC §119 to US Provisional Application 60/069334 filed 12/11/1997.--